

The London Gazette.

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Venice, March 20. N. S.

THE French Privateers have, of late, been very troublesome in these Parts, and taken several Merchant-men belonging to this State. The Senate have had this Affair under their Consideration; but have not yet been able to get it redress'd, or prevented for the future. This has prov'd a great Prejudice to our Trade, and if not remedied, must in time wholly destroy it, since our Merchants can find none that will venture to ensue upon their Ships. On Wednesday last a new Man of War was launch'd at the Arsenal. She carries eighty Guns, and will soon be put into a Condition to Sail. They write from Naples, that four Men of War belonging to that Kingdom were at Baya, two of them being appointed to Convoy an Italian Regiment of Foot to Barcelona. The Viceroy having caus'd several new Gallies to be built, and the rest refitted, they are now busy in equipping them, and Orders will be given speedily for their putting out to Sea. The Marquis de Balbases, Viceroy of Sicily, having seiz'd and confiscated the Estates of such Persons who are avowedly in the Interest of his Catholick Majesty, Orders have been sent from Barcelona to Naples, to use the same Methods with those who are declar'd Partisans of the Duke of Anjou. They continue to make diligent Search after Persons disaffected to the Government, and on the 8th Instant all the Garrisons throughout the Kingdom were chang'd by way of Precaution. They write from Rome, that the President Gubernati, his Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy's Minister, set out from thence the 14th Instant for Turin, having not been able to accommodate the Matters in Dispute betwixt his Master and the Pope. He sent a Manifesto in Writing to the Court before his Departure, in justification of his Royal Highness's Pretensions, and his own Conduct. One of the Sbirri lately kill'd a Servant belonging to the Portugal Envoy, and was himself wounded in the Action. The Envoy immediately complain'd of the Violation of his Privileges, and the Pope found himself under some Difficulties on that Account. Since this the Officer being heal'd of his Wounds, has found means to escape, which is hoped will put a stop to any farther Disputes in that Affair. The Prince of Florence, whom his Physicians look'd upon as restor'd to perfect Health, has had a Relapse, and is grown so ill again, that they begin to despair of his Recovery.

Copenhagen, March 28. N. S. Upon the Advice and Representations made by General Schultz, the King is resolv'd to reduce his Militia to two

thirds of what it is at present, and oblige the Country to advance thirty Crowns in Money instead of each Man, which they have hitherto furnish'd for the other third part. As this Regulation will be a very great ease to the Country, so will it prove no less advantageous to his Majesty's Service; for the Lands suffer'd considerably by having the best Peasants, and such as were most capable to manure them, taken into the Militia; and it often happen'd that those Peasants made but indifferent Soldiers; tho' in time of War the Maintenance of the Militia has been almost as expensive as that of the Regular Troops. As his Majesty's Demands are at present very extraordinary, several Ways have been propos'd for raising the necessary Sums, and an Order will be Publish'd very soon, laying a Tax on Windows and Chimneys, as likewise another for a Capitation. The Swedes have lately taken several of our Ships, laden chiefly with Corn and other Provisions, which proves a great help to them, and is very prejudicial to us here, where there is at present a great Scarcity. We are told, that the Swedes propose to put their Fleet out to Sea very early this Spring, in order to block up ours in this Port, whilst they transport their Forces from Schonen to Pomerania; whereupon Orders will be speedily issued out for the hastning our Naval Preparations, and preventing the Designs of the Enemy.

Hague, April 3. N. S. Our Letters that came hither this Day from Lille advise, that Marshal Villars arrived on the Frontiers the 31st of the last Month. It is thought the alarms the French had receiv'd from the Cantonment of our Troops on the Scarpe, and their Apprehensions of our whole Army's being speedily to assemble, oblig'd him to repair thither sooner than he at first intended. Several Conferences have been held here on the subject of the Demands made in the King of Prussia's Name to the States by General Gromkau, and they are endeavouring to give his Prussian Majesty such Satisfaction as he shall desire. The Conferences appointed to be held for accommodating the Differences between him and the Prince of Nassau, have not yet been open'd, by reason the Prince's Commissioners are not arriv'd. That Prince having requir'd that a Commissioner may be admitted to those Conferences in behalf of his Brother-in-Law the Landgrave of Hesse, the same has been agreed unto by the States. My Lord Raby, who arriv'd at Minden the 30th of the last Month, is expected here to Morrow, or the Day following; and my Lord Townshend is preparing to embark for England. Colonel Dormer, who was taken Prisoner at Brihuega, and has been since exchang'd, is come hither from Valadolid, where he left Lieutenant General Stanhope Prisoner.